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ABSTRACT

This report, summarizing the proceedings at a February 1988 conference at Brown University on youth service, presents briefly an overview of the emerging network of youth service programs in the following states: (1) Minnesota; (2) Pennsylvania; (3) California; (4) Massachusetts; and (5) Ohio. Rationales for youth service are analyzed. Eight strategies for implementing youth service programs at the state level are identified. Individual programs, such as the Youth Volunteer Corps of Greater Kansas City, and City Year in Boston, are discussed. The following types of youth service programs, and means of expanding them are outlined: (1) full-time corps; (2) campus-based service; and (3) school-based service. Strategies for advancing youth service on a national scale are discussed. A list of contributors to Youth Service America, and a list of conference participants are included. Photographs illustrate the text. (BJV)

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The New York Times

National Service, From the Bottom Up

Despite the virtual certainty of a Presidential veto, national youth service has become a hardy legislative perennial in Washington. At least seven bills dealing with the issue have bloomed again in the current Congress. While all have merit, national service may be best achieved from the bottom up rather than the top down.

A recent conference at Brown University brought together educators, governors, former Peace Corps volunteers and administrators of state and local service programs. The gathering showed the surprising number and diversity of local service opportunities that already exist. They range from New York's City Volunteer Corps, now in its fourth year, to the California Conservation Corps, so admired that even a conservative Governor has raised its budget by $10 million.

Yet the movement remains tiny: participation [illegible] full-time programs for 18-to-24-year-olds aver[illegible] of the last four years.

pich of Minnesota, who brought himself and several departmental commissioners to the meeting a Brown, outlined a range of youth service plans tie to efforts to improve his state's educational system They included, prominently, involving high scho students in "mentoring" younger children, esp cially poor children.

On another level are efforts of people like Dav Battey, a recent graduate of Williams College, wh with the help of the local United Way, created Youth Volunteer Corps of Greater Kansas C Alan Khazei and a group of Harvard companie are at work creating City Year, a youth service p gram in Boston.

Such efforts don't need direction or struc from Washington as much as some form of reco tion that they are part of a *national* youth servic fort. To the extent a straitened Federal budge lows, they also need money. Instead of the P Corps or Vista, the model should be a nationa

"Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Youth Service America is a non-profit organization founded to create new opportunities for young people to serve their communities and their country in full-time service and conservation corps, school-based programs, and programs based on university and college campuses.

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A Report of the Youth Service America and Brown University Youth Service Leadership Conference

Providence, Rhode Island
February 25/26, 1988

"This is the right time for a gathering of this kind. We are at a crossroads."

The Honorable Richard Celeste
Governor, State of Ohio

"The time is right for us to move forward. National self-interest and need are converging."

Marian Wright Edelman
President, Children's Defense Fund

"I haven't seen anything as popular for a long time in Minnesota."

The Honorable Rudy Perpich
Governor, State of Minnesota

Introduction

"We have a modest goal. We want to change the world, especially the way our generation goes about solving problems."

Alan Khazei
Organizer, Boston City Year

The right time for what? What kind of gathering? For whom?

In late February, 1988, about 75 people from around the country convened at Brown University to establish an action agenda for the next stage of development in the movement to establish youth service as part of coming of age in the United States. This was a "summit meeting" of leaders who are creating new opportunities and model programs for young people in community service. Taking part in the brief but potent discussions were the governors of Minnesota, Ohio, and Rhode Island, Senator Claiborne Pell, state legislators and other top state officials, the directors of state and urban youth corps, those spearheading programs on college campuses and in schools, and foundation and corporate officials.

Some were young people, foregoing more lucrative professional careers to embrace the challenge and excitement of developing new programs to meet community needs. For others, the meeting was a reunion of those who had become committed to the ethic of service through experiences with the Peace Corps and other similar efforts.

"In this room," said Youth Service America co-director Roger Landrum at the opening banquet, "is a good cut of the brain trust that will determine the future of youth service in America over the next few years, and perhaps permanently."

In less than 24 hours that brain trust had put together an action agenda for the coming months, largely, Landrum pointed out, because they were united by a common purpose:

- *To multiply youth service programs at all levels until the experience of service becomes part of growing up in America.*
- *To replace the current cliches about young people with a view that they are valuable resources capable of addressing our most pressing community and national problems.*
- *To create new bonds between young people and their communities.*

Called together by Youth Service America and Brown University, the conference on youth service discussed strategies that recognize the critical importance of leadership at the state level. Brown University president Howard Swearer noted, "For many years we talked about a national service program at the federal level, but we forgot to remember that a national program is not the same thing as a federal program. In the last three or four years it has been most gratifying to see what's happening at the grass roots level. We really have a national program, but it's happening where it ought to happen — at the state level, the city level, the community level — and not adding just another federal program."

This report briefly presents an overview of the emerging network of youth service programs in key states and the rationales for youth service discussed at the conference. It summarizes strategies for moving ahead. And it gives a sense of why now is the "right time" for political leaders, educators, foundation and corporate executives, and others to help spread effective programs involving young people in community service, state by state and city by city.

John F. Kennedy Library Corps, New York

"I want to reinforce the importance of service for young people as a self-esteem builder. Children need to feel useful. They need to find their place and role in society and in the community. They need to feel that they are contributing something. They need to have that contribution to society recognized and society needs them to contribute. . . . Another reason why service is terribly important is leadership development. It is where we learn to deal with problems in the world. It opens our eyes to the fact that individuals can make a difference. . . . The point is to serve. Not to win, not to succeed, not to fear risking or failing, but to serve. Nobody told us we're ever going to win, but they did tell us we have to make that effort."

Marian Wright Edelman
President, Children's Defense Fund

1988: State by State by State

Youth service has been on the national agenda almost since the beginning of the century, sometimes up, sometimes far down, but hanging in there as a policy issue. Through the various "streams of service" identified by Youth Service America, it is bubbling up again. This time the impetus and creativity are coming from the states.

The conference demonstrated the creativity and breadth of state efforts underway, and the commitment of state leaders. Governor Rudy Perpich of Minnesota brought with him to the conference the state commissioner of education, the lieutenant governor, the state planning commissioner, head of the state office of jobs policy, the state literacy coordinator, and director of the National Youth Leadership Council at the University of Minnesota.

Perpich, who takes over chairmanship of the Education Commission of the States this summer, has pledged to make youth service a priority of his year's ECS leadership.

Represented at the conference by his secretary of labor and industry Harris Wofford and a large public/private sector delegation, Pennsylvania Governor Robert Casey is launching a statewide youth service initiative.

Governor Richard Celeste of Ohio, a former director of the Peace Corps, addressed the conference on his Ohio youth service initiative and brought a state delegation seeking ideas.

Similar momentum is gathering in California and Massachusetts. And the Council of Chief State School Officers will hold regional meetings this spring and summer to train teams from participating states to promote and develop school-based youth community service programs.

Minnesota

Minnesota's point person for community service initiatives, education commissioner Ruth Randall, told the conference, "There is an ethos in the state of Minnesota of giving and doing for others."

Minnesota's 1987 Youth Development Act encourages local communities to develop community service programs for young people. Local Community Educa-

Wisconsin Conservation Corps, Oneida Reservation

San Francisco Conservation Corps

tion Advisory Councils may set a levy of 50 cents per capita to fund community-wide youth development plans. Some 160 school districts have opted to set the levy, and many include youth community service programs in the overall plan. For example, school districts in the Minneapolis area have raised $180,000 for school-based youth service programs through the levy legislation.

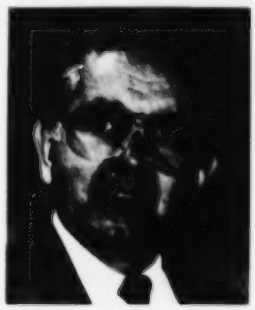
The Youth Development Act is just one piece of a comprehensive state plan being advanced by Governor Perpich to involve many more young people in community service. A primary focus of his plan is concentrating service programs on at-risk student populations.

Perpich's School-Community Service Initiative would offer mini-grants to encourage start-up and expansion of service programs, provide tuition-forgiveness to college students volunteering for service, and support training of school personnel and non-profit agencies accepting student volunteers.

The state has supported a Minnesota Conservation Corps since 1983. A proposal to establish a full-time, year-round Youth Service Corps is under consideration. Service programs and projects are rapidly expanding on college and university campuses through the activities of Minnesota/Campus Outreach Opportunity League (M/COOL) and Campus Compact. Jim Kielsmeier, president of the National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) at the University of Minnesota/St. Paul, is developing a K-12 curriculum incorporating service for the Minneapolis schools. Much of the groundwork for the current state-wide youth service momentum in Minnesota was patiently and skillfully built by NYLC and Kielsmeier, with support from area foundations and corporations.

"On my visits to schools around the state, I went to Marshall High School in Duluth where community service is a requirement and where most of that service is one-on-one mentoring. I could see in that program a certain chemistry and joy among the students. I could see that this mentoring program was clearly very successful. I saw that here is a way to achieve two things in one program — doing a much better job with at-risk youth in schools and getting many more students interested in teaching as a career. So I have become an advocate of community service programs. We have worked very hard to secure passage of a number of bills in this area of community service during this 1988 legislative session.

Governor Rudy Perpich



"We're not talking about a bureaucracy but an idea that empowers."

John Briscoe, Director, PennSERV

Pennsylvania

With its Quaker heritage of service as a personal and community value, Pennsylvania is experiencing a unique combination of political and civic leadership coming together to focus on youth service. A multi-faceted approach, championed by Governor Robert Casey, includes:

- Appointing individuals with a long-term commitment to youth service to power-based roles in state government, including the secretaries of labor and industry and education, and creating a new position of state coordinator for citizen service with a proposed budget of $500,000 before the legislature.
- Expanding the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps from 500 to 1,500 members, and giving new emphasis to corpsmember education and crew leader training.
- Developing four urban corps. Two are underway in Philadelphia (the Philadelphia Ranger Corps for high school graduates not planning to enter college immediately is funded by the William Penn Foundation; the Philadelphia Youth Service Corps, designed by Public/Private Ventures Inc. from research findings on service corps across the country, has a combination of public and private funding). Two more corps will evolve in other urban areas with $150,000 in planning grant monies from the state.
- Developing a statewide Campus Compact, initiated by the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities, with a 1988 goal of 15 campuses throughout the state.
- Creating a pool of seed monies and a network of successful programs to encourage the spread of school-based community service programs (for example, Pittsburgh's Oasis program takes 100 at-risk seventh graders and enrolls them in an education/community service program; the Chestnut Hill High School Honor Society received a $40,000 grant from the state to run the county's literacy program).
- Developing leadership that includes young executives from the business and non-profit sectors who explore together how to address statewide community problems.

Another initiative, according to Secretary Wofford, encourages those receiving unemployment compensation to volunteer for community service. Among the original group of volunteers, one-fourth received paying jobs immediately and one-fourth have good job prospects. Further, 80% said they would continue to volunteer.

Student community service, Prince George's County, Maryland

Campus Compact, Rhode Island School for the Deaf

"We can move toward universal service not by compulsion but by asking in a powerful way for everybody to serve. Governor Casey has set a goal in Pennsylvania of building a system of service in which we ask everybody to serve. The governor believes that community service should be part of the school curriculum to enrich both education and citizenship. Spreading service programs through the education system is a central part of our state plan because you can ask everybody to serve without great cost. We have a Pennsylvania Conservation Corps which we are expanding. The governor wants to promote service corps in communities all around the state. We are tremendously interested in the Campus Compact because we believe we can combine the college students and high school kids working in communities where the needs are greatest. We welcome the competition with Minnesota. Competition between our various programs and states will help us move toward the day when a year or more of service to one's own community or to the international community is a common expectation of coming of age in this world."

Secretary Harris Wofford

California

California is a hothouse for youth service programs: the first and largest state conservation corps in the country; eight local corps; and proliferating campus-based and school-based community service programs. Last year, California became the first state officially to endorse student community service. On the legislative front:

■ The 1987 Human Corps legislation requires California's higher education system to "strongly encourage and expect" students to volunteer for a minimum of 30 hours each academic year. Start-up money was deleted from the bill but will be requested again this year.

■ The California Bottle Bill allocates to community conservation corps 10% of funds collected from a one-cent surcharge on bottles. Building on the experience and reputation of the 11-year-old California Conservation Corps and the San Francisco and East Bay conservation corps, seven local corps will be supported by the growing pool of funds, beginning with about $1.5 million in April 1988.

■ State Assemblyman Tom Hayden has proposed a Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Service Scholarship to rechannel federal work-study funds into public service positions for young people. The bill provides for matching funds to be raised from the private sector and encourages awarding academic credit for community service. Hayden told the conference that this program would redirect the use of students as cheap labor on campuses to utilizing them as resources to help meet community needs. He also pointed out that all states are eligible for the work-study funds and could replicate this legislation.

■ A proposed California legislative initiative would encourage pre-collegiate student involvement in community service.

Operation Civic Serve, headed by Robert Choate, is coordinating the campus-based efforts with community agencies, foundations, and further legislative goals.

Bud Sheble, director of the California Conservation Corps, left the conference drafting a memorandum for Governor George Deukmejian on next steps forward for youth service.

Massachusetts

Youth Community Service is a long-established tradition in scattered schools and colleges of the Bay State. Recent new initiatives are building programs on a much broader scale.

The Thomas Jefferson Forum was founded several years ago by investment banker T. J. Coolidge as a discussion group about national service, taking as its motto Jefferson's 1793 comment to James Madison, "A tour of duty in whatever line he can be most useful to his country is due from every individual." The Jefferson Forum is currently sponsoring high school service programs in the greater Boston area, developing models, and training a cadre of teacher-coordinators. It has just received a grant of $100,000 from the General Cinema Corporation to develop programs statewide.

The Community Service Network of New England, headed by Richard Gross, who runs Phillips Academy's service program, will hold workshops and

act as a resource network for the region.

City Year, similar to the City Volunteer Corps of New York City, will begin in Boston this summer, spearheaded by a talented group of young university graduates (see p. 12). And 10 members of the Campus Compact are located in Massachusetts.

Key state legislators are involved in a proposal for a Massachusetts Future Corps. Under this bill, high school graduates 17 and older, or dropouts enrolled in a GED program, could apply to be Future Corps interns. In addition to a minimum wage during service, they could earn a tuition voucher equal to two or four years — depending upon the length of their community service — of tuition and room and board at an institution of higher education. This bill would reward the service of young people with an affordable college education. Another pending bill in the legislature would establish a state conservation corps.

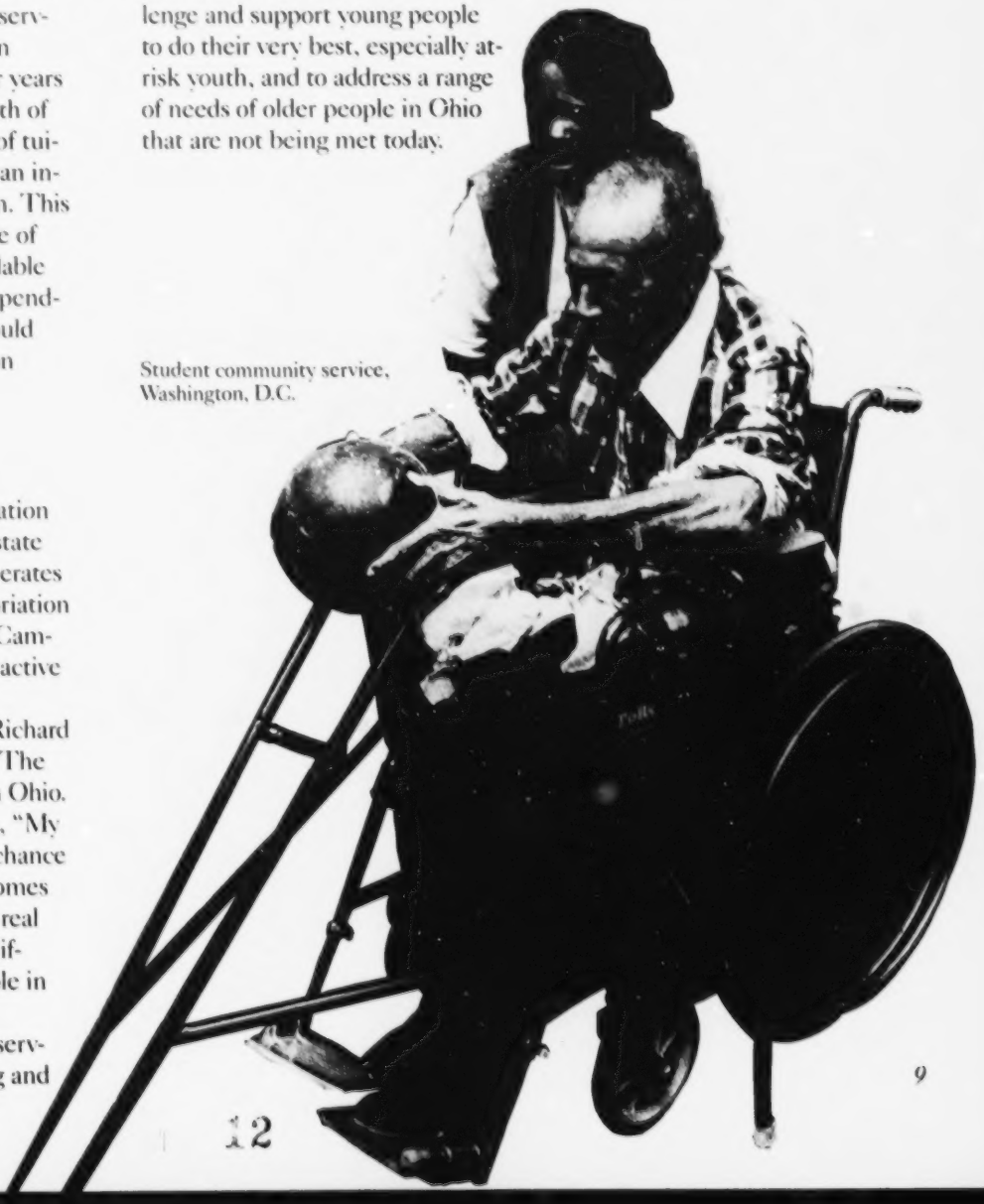
Ohio

The Ohio Civilian Conservation Corps is the second oldest state corps in the country and operates with an annual state appropriation of just over $5 million. Six Campus Compact members are active in Ohio.

In January, Governor Richard Celeste designated 1988 as The Year of Volunteer Service in Ohio. Celeste told the conference, "My dream is to give Ohioans a chance to enjoy the learning that comes from service and to make a real difference, not a marginal difference, in the lives of people in their communities."

Celeste's new "call to service" is for all citizens, young and old. He has announced a goal, by September, of 2,000 retired Ohioans volunteering in schools, and 2,000 high school students with drivers' licenses assisting senior citizens with shopping, doctors' appointments, and travel to and from senior centers. To encourage the ethic of service among all ages, Celeste is calling upon 2,000 of "those of us in the middle" to get leave time from corporations to be mentors to these projects. The 2,000 number, Celeste says, is "just a start."

The themes of the Ohio service initiative will be to challenge and support young people to do their very best, especially at-risk youth, and to address a range of needs of older people in Ohio that are not being met today.



Student community service, Washington, D.C.

Strategies for the State Level

- Get governors, influential legislators, and other prominent citizens to use their bully pulpits to trumpet the theme of youth service.
- Organize a broad-based support group within the state, representing potential major constituencies for youth service. This has been done very successfully by the Minnesota Youth Service Initiative, and the 14-person Pennsylvania group at the conference agreed to serve as the nucleus of a planning group for Pennsylvania.
- Utilize young people and their experience to convey vividly the importance of their service projects to the state legislature and to corporations for monetary support, or to the general public.
- Promote a diversity of service options. Do not get bogged down in issues that polarize, such as the argument between mandatory versus voluntary service or which youth population needs service the most.
- Utilize the National Governors' Association and other national leadership groups as leverage points, such as the U.S. Conference of Mayors and National League of Cities. All could be standard bearers for youth service.
- Emphasize both tangible outcomes and leadership development for young people as major components of the content of service programs in order to garner support.
- Concentrate on capturing the interest, support, and commitment of educators through their organizations.
- Emphasize a common identity for all youth service programs and the important role that state efforts have in a national movement to involve many more young people in service.

San Francisco Conservation Corps

Governor Celeste and friends, Ohio

"We're at a crossroads where I think many signs point to increased volunteer service. My question is whether we're going to choose the right road. It does really make a difference for the future of this country. We as a nation have to open broad avenues for public service, not some narrow highway. Think for a moment about the young people of this country, particularly those several million young people who today are looking for work and can't find it. Think of the 20% or 30% or in some places 40% of our students who are beginning high school this year who are virtually earmarked for failure and will drop out before schooling is over. Think of the three million young teenagers who have special needs today, involved in alcohol or drugs, involved in crime, involved in premature parenting. Our challenge is to see them not simply as the objects of service, although they may often be, but as service volunteers. Everyone can be a volunteer and everyone learns in the process of being a volunteer in profound ways. We can, if we really work with educators, open their minds to the opportunity for service learning as part of everybody's education in junior and senior high school. No learning is better, no learning is more valuable, no learning will last longer."

Governor Richard Celeste

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Tale of Two Cities

Youth Corps of Greater Kansas City recruitment flyer

Youth Volunteer Corps of Greater Kansas City

Three years ago David Battey was a senior at Williams College preparing a theoretical model for national youth service as a senior thesis paper. Last year he brought his ideas to fruition by establishing a highly acclaimed youth volunteer corps in his hometown of Kansas City. This coming fall, Battey begins work on replicating the model in at least four additional cities by the summer of 1990 as a regional program director for Youth Service America.

The greater Kansas City program was fine-tuned with research about what teenagers in a summer program want to do in community service. It was tied directly to the local United Way as a project of its volunteer center, receiving in-kind support as well as agency contacts and publicity, including a public service announcement televised at home games of the National Football League's Kansas City Chiefs. The program is supported primarily by donations from such local groups as the Hallmark Corporate Foundation, the Black Community Fund, and Kansas City Southern Industries. ACTION, the federal volunteer program, provided a three-year grant. First year costs were about $37,500 but $65,000 was donated to support the program.

Non-profit organizations suggested interesting, useful four-week projects which were conducted by eight-member teams of high school youth supervised by a team leader of college age or older. Corpsmembers worked with abused children, coached inner-city youth, winterized homes of elderly residents, ran a day camp for children with learning disabilities, and developed a variety show that toured nursing homes. More than 100 teen-agers donated 13,000 hours of volunteer time during the summer. They were recruited from 36 area high schools and, said Battey, represented "an integrated program in a segregated city." The corps work continued during the school year with corpsmembers recruiting classmates for one-day projects and planning weekend and summer projects.

Battey was able to attract the youth — at $3 a day — because, he told the conference, "we pitched it to students that they could work in a fast food place at the minimum wage or with the corps and have an interesting job, learn new skills, and meet new people. We got the recruits."

City Year in Boston

When Alan Khazei was an intern in the nation's capital, he was convinced that national service "should be a massive program with lots of money." As a student at Harvard Law School and after observing the City Volunteer Corps in action in New York City, he decided that youth service should build from smaller programs locally based. But he still had big ideas about youth service as a way to make citizenship real for young people.

Khazei, one year out of law school, and three friends — Neil Silverston of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Admistration; Michael Brown from the Harvard Law School; and Jennifer Eplett from Wellesley College — have all delayed their plans for professional careers in law and other areas to launch City Year, a full-time service corps for Boston. This summer the group hopes to

"Kansas City is a very segregated area. We wanted to attract a diversity of youth, so the emphasis was on service, not jobs. In my first visits to high schools, I found that teen-agers liked the idea of team projects. They were attracted to work on projects with kids of very different backgrounds from their own, especially the kids in the inner city schools. That was true of the suburban kids also, but to a lesser extent. And we did attract inner city youth. Forty percent were minority kids — 30% black, 5% Asian, and 5% Hispanic. Most were from the inner city. Overall the income levels were spread across the board. We did that purposely by recruiting from 36 high schools. We believe everybody should be asked to volunteer and help other people."

David Battey

Boston's *City Year* Organizers: Michael Brown, Alan Khazei, Jennifer Eplett and Neil Silverston

place about 50 volunteers, ages 17-21, in city and nonprofit agencies to work on critical human services and physical projects. Working in teams, like most of the new wave of service corps, participants will come together frequently for "signature services" of one-day or week-long projects involving the whole service corps.

Following this summer's pilot program with 10 projects, City Year will become a full-time corps of 100 young people next summer, with local businesses and foundations sponsoring City Year service teams.

Khazei and friends believe young people of diverse backgrounds in the greater Boston area are ready to be empowered to make a difference in their communities. Corpsmembers will receive $100 a week as a stipend and a year-end bonus of $5,000 for educational purposes or a $2,500 cash adjustment. Cash benefits are similar to those of the New York City Volunteer Corps.

City Year hopes to be an entrepreneurial program with significant private sector support. The Bank of Boston has committed $25,000 to help launch City Year and additional support has been pledged from the Equitable Foundation, The Analytical Sciences Corporation, Volunteer Fund Raisers Association of Greater Boston, and Youth Service America.

Increasing numbers of young people are participating in community service programs. Frank Slobig, co-director of Youth Service America, summarized three "streams of service" — school-based programs, campus-based programs, and full-time service corps. One goal of the conference was to identify specific, collaborative strategies to improve and expand upon each stream.

Full-time Corps

Growing from only two programs 10 years ago, full-time state and local service corps now number over 50. The seminal state program, the California Conservation Corps, now has an annual state budget of $58 million and 2,200 corpsmembers. The A-Team in Anne Arundel County, Maryland is one of the smallest, with a budget of $200,000 for 20-25 corpsmembers. Another substream or feeder system is the summer corps movement. Michigan's Youth Corps, championed by Governor James Blanchard, is the most substantially funded at $25 million for 30,000 corpsmembers. By contrast, the New Hampshire Conservation Corps budgets $25,000 for 10 summer volunteers.

Another emerging facet of the youth corps movement is diversification into human services, beyond the initial concentration on conservation and environmental projects. The City Volunteer Corps of New York City and the Washington State Service Corps have shown the breadth of human services that can be offered by corpsmembers. Since last fall, Oakland's East Bay Conservation Corps has fielded teams serving the elderly.

Frank Slobig estimates that 60,000 have experience each year in a youth service corps, but he also pointed out that this is less than one-third of one percent of the 20 million 16-to-24-year-olds who are not in school full-time. Access is limited because more than one-half of the states have no youth corps at all. Many that do exist are restrictive. But access is limited most of all because providing full-time opportunities through a corps program is an expensive proposition.

The public recognizes the benefits of youth service corps where political will and leadership are visible, Slobig said, pointing to the examples of California and Michigan.

Expansion Strategies

- Identify, educate, and support public officials who can promote the growth of youth service corps.
- Use the potential of foundation and corporate seed funds to leverage public dollars for new programs.
- Use the success of state youth corps programs and gubernatorial

Campus Compact,
South Providence Boys and Girls Club

leadership to spin off development of urban corps.

- Develop "mission-oriented" service corps programs, such as those directed at helping at-risk children, helping elderly citizens, or using inner-city youth to rehabilitate housing for the poor. Publicize the benefits.
- Establish a consortium of leaders in the full-time corps field to identify potential sites for new corps programs, assist in raising funds, and coordinate technical assistance.
- Use experienced service corps developers to help design new programs.
- Promote the full diversity of service corps options to attract a diverse representation of young people and to offer flexible adaptation to individual state or community needs.
- Build up capacity of youth service corps to encourage youth leadership development and provide education incentives.

Campus-Based Service

Two complementary currents account for the recent high interest in community service among college students. The Campus Compact, an organization of 142 college and university presidents, is committed to supporting and integrating community service as an educational experience for students. And the Campus Outreach Opportunity League (COOL) has made inroads on 400 campuses in building a service movement among students. In several states efforts of the Campus Compact and COOL are moving toward a collaborative, statewide effort.

Another approach is that of Operation Civic Serve in California, a coalition that includes agencies and organizations benefitting from student service, as well as administration and student groups. It is also at work on the legislative front.

Expansion Strategies

- Establish statewide Campus Compacts and COOL student organizing efforts.
- Encourage state policymakers to include student service in their budget messages to state institutions of higher education.
- Expand upon student incentives for becoming involved in community service, such as preference in admissions' policies, tuition-forgiveness plans, scholarships, and service-related internships.
- Provide structure and resources to make community service work: program coordinators, transportation, counseling before and after, opportunities for reflection about the experience, and recognition of service.

University Year for ACTION, Nebraska

■ Keep the definition of community service broad and involve many offices and groups — the chaplain, fraternities/sororities, work-study programs, COOL and Campus Compact — and offer many "entry points" and incentives for people with different types of motivation.

■ Educate students about the problems and needs for service, involve them in surveying community needs, and give them a sense of "ownership" about providing solutions.

■ Adopt issue-oriented causes that students will buy into.

■ Inform the whole faculty about what community service is and how it can relate to classroom learning. Encourage faculty to become involved through release time, rewards and recognition, and opportunities to develop their expertise in a community setting, such as English teachers supervising students working on the problem of illiteracy.

■ Develop regional networks that help expand campus-based programs.

■ Document and publicize achievements of service programs, and encourage research on longer-term benefits to students and communities.

School-Based Service

Slobig reported that the pre-collegiate picture of student service is blurred by a lack of information. Various surveys suggest that perhaps 10% of public and private schools — as many as 3,000 — have some sustained, cohesive youth community service programming. While it is the least documented "stream of service," pre-collegiate community service also may be the area most ripe for development.

Current efforts range from district-wide mandatory service programs in cities such as Atlanta and Detroit, to the voluntary program of student leadership development through community service in 22 Los Angeles high schools, to the curriculum-related Learning in the Community program at Princeton High School in New Jersey. Two states, Pennsylvania and Maryland, now have full-time state Department of Education youth service coordinators to promote service initiatives in the schools. In Vermont, school-based service has been spurred by a zealous champion outside the education community with the encouragement and backing of the governor.

Ramapo High School,
Ramapo, New York

Expansion Strategies

- Create an ethos for youth service at the state level among political, civic and education leaders.
- Recognize, at the same time, that successful programs in schools depend upon the energy and enthusiasm of individual teachers; they must be central to the school's sense of educational mission; and they require sustained attention and cultivation.
- Focus student service on an issue, such as the educational needs of younger students, and use the issue to enliven textbook-driven instruction.
- Ensure that resources are provided either to train host agency personnel about supervising student volunteers or to provide coordinators who train and monitor students.
- Find the very best people for coordinators and put resources behind their leadership.
- Sell school principals on the benefits of youth service programs for students who are at-risk.
- Establish a national award for exemplary school-based service programs and publicize their achievements.
- Encourage research on longer-term benefits of service to students and communities.

"Youth Service America is a vital link between the diverse programs operating in high schools, colleges, and states around the country, and the ideas for national youth service being discussed in Washington."

U.S. Senator Bill Bradley
of New Jersey
Honorary Chairman
Youth Service America

The City Volunteer Corps, NYC *19*

National Strategies

Governor Perpich captured the essence of the conference dynamic when he remarked, "Ultimately, this must be a national movement involving every state."

A series of working sessions at the conference were devoted to defining next steps forward for the individual streams of service, the key states represented, and the broader common interests of funding, legislative initiatives, and political strategies. Participants may have come from diverse points of departure, but they increasingly saw themselves as key players in a collective drama of moving the big picture of youth community service to center stage in the national policy arena.

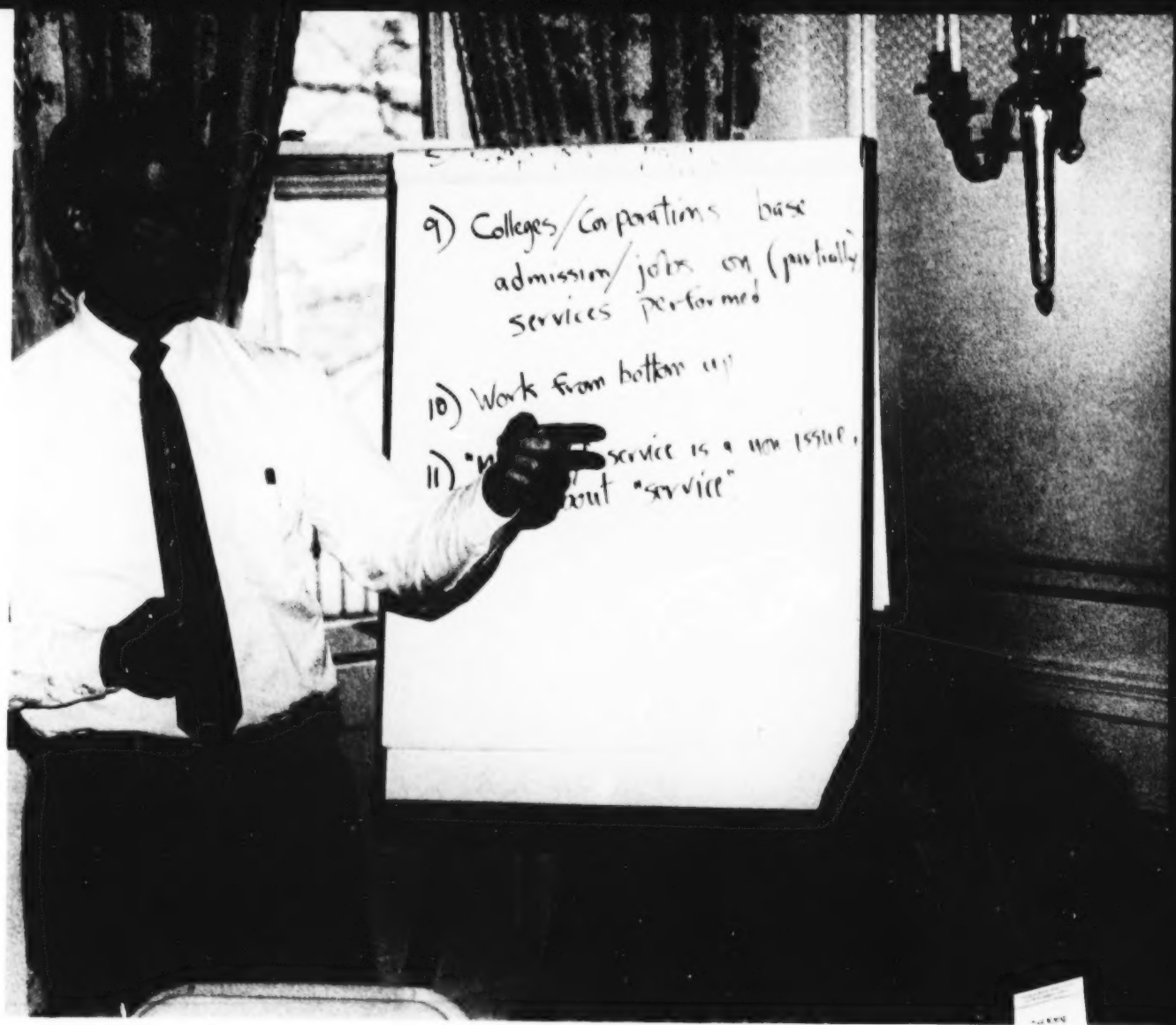
The principal strategies identified for advancing youth service on a national scale build upon the initial successes and momentum generated within states and localities. These strategies reinforce a bottom up approach that was the conference central theme. They include:

- Urging committed governors to use their influential positions in the National Governors' Association to elevate youth community service to a higher priority on the association's policy agenda.
  Governors Perpich and Celeste will take the lead, using their NGA committee chairmanships to promote youth service.

- Utilizing involved governors to enlist other governors in initiating new state efforts.
  Governor Perpich as chairman-elect of the Education Commission of the States will begin to involve other governors in developing state by state support to mobilize a million high school and college students as mentors and tutors to younger at-risk students.

- Developing a national public awareness campaign to increase the visibility of the growing number of youth service programs across the country.
  Youth service programs from coast to coast will participate on a designated day in October, 1988 to focus public attention on their local youth service programs as part of a coordinated national effort to broaden public awareness and support.

- Promoting national program themes that address some of our nation's most pressing challenges, such as service to educationally at-risk children, service to the elderly, and housing rehabilitation for the homeless.
  The themes of "Youth Serving the Young", "Youth Serving the Elderly", and "Housing Rehabilitation" will be advocated in a sustained way with national policy makers, public interest groups concentrating on education, aging, and housing, and institutions across the country that could benefit from the service of young people.



■ Getting youth service on the agendas of national organizations that are potential allies and beneficiaries.
Panels of practitioners and advocates, including young people active in community service, will make presentations at national meetings of groups receptive to the youth service agenda.

■ Incorporating a youth service policy into the national party platforms.
Presentations will be made by youth service advocates at platform committee hearings and a concerted bipartisan effort will be made to get both Republican and Democratic support for a youth service policy.

■ Securing support for youth service from the presidential candidates and getting them to visit local programs during the campaign.
National organizations active in the youth service field will identify and recommend sites for presidential candidates to visit.

■ Drafting consensus federal legislation that recognizes and enhances the existing streams of service.
A "Policy Framework for Youth Service" will be circulated to all proponents of federal legislative initiatives and advanced as a vehicle for developing a multi-tiered bill that builds on the existing streams of service.

Robert Burkhardt, San Francisco Conservation Corps and Gail M. Kong, New York City Volunteer Corps at the YSA conference.

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Hon. Anthony Kline, Presiding Justice, California State Court of Appeals
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From a report written by Anne Lewis

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The New York Times

National Service, From the Bottom Up

Despite the virtual certainty of a Presidential veto, national youth service has become a hardy legislative perennial in Washington. At least seven bills dealing with the issue have bloomed again in the current Congress. While all have merit, national service may be best achieved from the bottom up rather than the top down.

A recent conference at Brown University brought together educators, governors, former Peace Corps volunteers and administrators of state and local service programs. The gathering showed the surprising number and diversity of local service opportunities that already exist. They range from New York's City Volunteer Corps, now in its fourth year, to the California Conservation Corps, so admired that even a conservative Governor has raised its budget by $10 million.

Yet the movement remains tiny: participation in full-time programs for 18-to-24-year-olds averaged fewer than 7,000 in each of the last four years. In a nation where 3.6 million young people turn 18 each year, that's next to nothing.

How can opportunities be expanded? California passed legislation last year ordering its two state university systems to encourage all students to volunteer at least 30 hours of community service a year. That modest action seems to have set off a wave of volunteer service activity. Gov. Rudy Perpich of Minnesota, who brought himself and several departmental commissioners to the meeting at Brown, outlined a range of youth service plans tied to efforts to improve his state's educational system. They included, prominently, involving high school students in "mentoring" younger children, especially poor children.

On another level are efforts of people like David Battey, a recent graduate of Williams College, who, with the help of the local United Way, created the Youth Volunteer Corps of Greater Kansas City. Alan Khazei and a group of Harvard companions are at work creating City Year, a youth service program in Boston.

Such efforts don't need direction or structure from Washington as much as some form of recognition that they are part of a *national* youth service effort. To the extent a straitened Federal budget allows, they also need money. Instead of the Peace Corps or Vista, the model should be a national endowment or institute. It could charter local programs that meet certain standards of excellence, and make grants to encourage creation or expansion of exemplary projects.

Congress might profitably consider this alternative. Washington's contribution need not be large to be helpful.

YOUTH SERVICE AMERICA